

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the recent trip by Bulgarian Prime Minister Sergei Stanishev to India to highlight the growing relationship between these two democracies. As co-chair of both the Bulgaria Caucus and the Caucus on India and Indian Americans, I am encouraged by this good news.

This visit marks a continuation of the economic relationship both nations have fostered by expanding their trade and investment opportunities. America will be a key ally of Bulgaria and India in providing growth for their partnership.

As a member of NATO and the European Union, Bulgaria is a friend of the United States. We are in a unique position to strengthen their relationship with our allies throughout the world. Additionally, India remains one of our strategic partners in Asia under the leadership of Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. I am pleased that the United States and India are finalizing the civilian nuclear agreement that will expand the use of a clean energy source for India and fulfill our nonproliferation efforts.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th.

#### IRAQ

(Ms. WATSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, during the course of the war in Iraq, the American people have paid a very heavy price, not just financially, although the war has already cost over 400 billion taxpayer dollars, but also through the tragic loss of at least 3,775 American lives, with countless more injured. And under the President's plan to continue our failed policy in Iraq, these immense sacrifices will continue.

According to General Petraeus, if we go forward with this war as the President wants us to, on average, two U.S. men and women will die every day; another 15 will be wounded each day; and we will spend \$300 million each and every day we are there.

It seems that these massive losses do not register with some of my Republican colleagues who continue to support an open-ended commitment in Iraq. In fact, Republican Leader BOEHNER even said recently, when asked how much longer we should stay in Iraq, that the sacrifice being made will be a small price. I don't think so.

□ 1015

#### HONORING FRANK BECKMANN

(Mr. McCOTTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Frank Beckmann upon

the 35th anniversary of his distinguished broadcasting career at WJR, the great voice of the Great Lakes.

Since 1972, Frank Beckmann has steadily risen through the station's ranks until today he stands as a beloved, in most quarters, Detroit radio personality. Frank's iconic status was cemented in February of 2003 when the "Frank Beckmann Show" debuted. Over the ensuing years, Frank's commitment to providing fair and candid news has earned him a legion of fans and countless awards, which he, no doubt, is at the present time trying to count regardless.

Madam Speaker, over the years, Frank has enlightened and entertained radio audiences with his laid back humor, his probing interviews and his male pattern baldness.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Frank Beckmann's loyalty to his listeners, dedication to the truth, and enduring contribution to broadcasting, our community, and our country.

#### RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Science and Technology:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, September 19, 2007.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,  
Speaker of the House, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: This letter is to advise you that, effective today, I am resigning my seat on the House Committee on Science and Technology.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL M. HONDA,  
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted.

There was no objection.

#### PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2881, FAA REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2007

Mr. WELCH of Vermont. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 664 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 664

*Resolved*, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2881) to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the Federal Aviation Administration for fiscal years 2008 through 2011, to improve aviation safety and capacity, to provide stable funding for the national aviation system, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of

the bill are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. General debate shall be confined to the bill and the amendments considered as adopted by this resolution and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. In lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure now printed in the bill, the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, modified by the amendment printed in part B of such report, shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as the original bill for the purpose of further amendment under the five-minute rule and shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. Notwithstanding clause 11 of rule XVIII, no further amendment to the bill, as amended, shall be in order except those printed in part C of the report of the Committee on Rules. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendments are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill, as amended, to the House with such further amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

SEC. 2. During consideration in the House of H.R. 2881 pursuant to this resolution, notwithstanding the operation of the previous question, the Chair may postpone further consideration of the bill to a time designated by the Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Vermont is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. WELCH of Vermont. Madam Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART).

All time yielded during consideration of the rule is for debate only, and I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous materials into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Vermont?

There was no objection.

Mr. WELCH of Vermont. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, H. Res. 664 provides for consideration of H.R. 2881, the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2007, under a structured rule. The resolution provides 1 hour of debate, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and